

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-49. (Canceled)

50. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for reducing crosstalk comprising:

a cap manufactured of a material configured to minimize transmission of electrical signal away from its intended path, the cap constructed to fit about a jack including a port for receiving a plug, spring contacts for making electrical contact with the plug, and insulation displacement contacts housed in an insulation displacement contact housing, the insulation displacement contacts electrically connected to the spring contacts, the insulation displacement contact housing including a top, a back, and two sides, the cap constructed to form a shield structure along the top, the back, and the two sides of the insulation displacement contact housing, the cap including an electrically non-conductive material which is impregnated with an electrically conductive material such that the cap is overall electrically non-conductive, wherein the electrically conductive material of the cap is not constructed to be grounded when the jack is terminated to a cable.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Canceled)

53. (Canceled)

54. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 50, wherein the cap includes a notch along the back of the insulation displacement contact housing for allowing a cable to be terminated to the insulation displacement contacts of the jack.

55. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications device comprising:

a jack including a front side and a back side, the jack defining a port in the front side for receiving a plug, the jack also defining spring contacts within the port for making electrical contact with the plug, the jack including insulation displacement contacts rearwardly projecting from the back side, the insulation displacement contacts electrically connected to the spring contacts, the insulation displacement contacts configured to establish electrical contact with conductors of a cable, the insulation displacement contacts arranged in two columns that define a space thereinbetween for receiving the conductors of the cable, the insulation displacement contacts defining an outer surface; and

a cap manufactured of a material configured to minimize transmission of electrical signal away from its intended path, the cap constructed to fit about the jack to cover at least a portion of the outer surface defined by the insulation displacement contacts, the cap including an electrically non-conductive material which is impregnated with an electrically conductive material such that the cap is overall electrically non-conductive, wherein the electrically conductive material of the cap is not constructed to be grounded when the jack is terminated to a cable.

56. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications device according to claim 55, wherein the electrically conductive material impregnated into the electrically non-conductive material includes carbon.

57. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications device according to claim 55, wherein the electrically conductive material impregnated into the electrically non-conductive material includes stainless steel.

58. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications device according to claim 55, wherein the jack is a recommended (RJ) type jack.

59. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications device according to claim 55, wherein the electrically conductive material of the cap is coated with an electrically non-conductive insulator coating.

60. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications device according to claim 55, wherein the cap includes an opening aligned with the space defined in between the two columns of the insulation displacement contacts.

61. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications device according to claim 55, wherein the jack includes the front and back sides, a top side, and two lateral sides, wherein the cap covers at least a portion of the top side, the back side, and the two lateral sides.

62. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications device according to claim 55, wherein the jack is terminated to an unshielded cable.

63. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 50, wherein the electrically conductive material impregnated into the electrically non-conductive material includes carbon.

64. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for reducing crosstalk comprising:
a one-piece cap manufactured of a material configured to minimize transmission of electrical signal away from its intended path, the cap constructed to fit about a jack that includes a port for receiving a plug, spring contacts for making electrical contact with the plug, and insulation displacement contacts housed in an insulation displacement contact housing, the insulation displacement contacts electrically connected to the spring contacts, the insulation displacement contact housing including a top, a back, and two sides, the cap including a first wall portion constructed to at least partially cover the top, a second wall portion constructed to at least partially cover the back, and third and fourth wall portions constructed to at least partially cover the two sides of the insulation displacement contact housing, the cap including a curved first notch defined along the second wall portion of the cap for accommodating a cable terminated to the insulation displacement contacts, the cap including a second notch defined along the first wall portion of the cap, the cap constructed to fit about the jack with a snap-fit, the cap including an electrically non-conductive material which is impregnated with an electrically conductive material such that the cap is overall electrically non-conductive.

65. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 64, wherein the electrically conductive material impregnated into the electrically non-conductive material includes carbon.

66. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 64, wherein the electrically conductive material impregnated into the electrically non-conductive material includes stainless steel.

67. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 64, wherein the electrically conductive material of the cap is coated with an electrically non-conductive insulator coating.

68. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 64, wherein the cap includes a curved flange defined about the first notch, the flange protruding from the second wall portion of the cap.

69. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 64, wherein the second notch is constructed for accommodating a flexible cantilever arm of the jack.

70. (Withdrawn) A method of reducing alien crosstalk between adjacent jacks that are terminated to non-shielded cables, the jacks each including a port for receiving a plug, spring contacts for making electrical contact with the plug, and insulation displacement contacts housed in an insulation displacement contact housing, the insulation displacement contacts electrically connected to the spring contacts, the insulation displacement contact housing including a top, a back, and two sides, the method comprising the step of:

(a) snap-fitting a cap about one of the jacks to form a shield structure along the top, the back, and the two sides of the insulation displacement contact housing of the jack, wherein the cap includes an electrically non-conductive material which is impregnated with an electrically conductive material such that the cap is overall electrically non-conductive.